

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 018009

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ORIGIN EA-10

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PPTE-00 SCA-01 SCSE-00 /025 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - VLTOMSETH:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

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R 250027Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO CHNAVPERS 10311 DEPT OF NAVY

NAVSECACT PAC PEARL HARBOR

UNCLAS STATE 018009

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MILI, TH

SUBJECT: TRANSIENTS EN ROUTE TO DIEGO GARCIA

1. NAVAL SHORE ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING ACTIVITY, PACIFIC, AN ELEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, HAS EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES WITH THAI IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES. CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES TRANSITING THAILAND EN ROUTE TO DIEGO GARCIA HAVE ARRIVED IN BANGKOK VIA COMMERCIAL CARRIER WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN GIVEN 15-DAY TEMPORARY STAY PERMITS BY THAI IMMIGRATION. THEY THEN TRAVEL TO U TAPAO WHERE THEY DEPART VIA US MILITARY AIRLIFT FOR DG WITHOUT BENEFIT OF HAVING THEIR PASSPORTS STAMPED BY IMMIGRATION. WHEN THEY RETURN TO THAILAND SEVERAL WEEKS LATER ON THEIR WAY BACK TO HAWAII, IMMIGRATION HAS NO EVIDENCE THAT THEY EVER LEFT THE COUNTRY AND HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO FIND THEM IN VIOLATION OF THEIR STAY PERMITS.

2. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY HAS SOUGHT OUR ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM. WE WONDER IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE THESE PERSONNEL CLEARED BY THAI IMMIGRATION AT
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PAGE 02 STATE 018009

DON MUANG PRIOR TO BOARDING MILITARY AIRCRAFT BOUND FOR

U TAPAO WHERE THEY MAKE THEIR CONNECTION TO DG? IF THIS IS
FEASIBLE, THEY PRESUMABLY COULD REVERSE THE PROCEDURE ON
THE RETURN TRIP. EMPLOYEES HOLD OFFICIAL PASSPORTS. INGERSOLL

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